

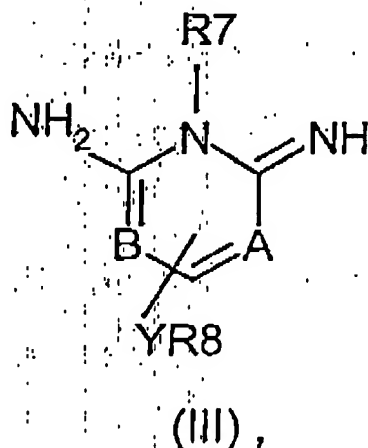
**In the Claims:**

Please amend claim 12, 17, 18 and 21 as follows:

Claims 1 to 11 (canceled).

12 (currently amended). A method of at least one of promoting hair growth and decreasing hair loss, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing an agent comprising at least one compound of formula (III) a physiologically compatible salt thereof ~~member selected from the group consisting of compounds of formula (III) and physiologically compatible salts thereof;~~



wherein **A** and **B**, independently of each other, are each a CH group of a nitrogen atom, with the proviso that at least one of said **A** and **B** is said CH group.

Y represents -O-,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -,  $-NH-CH_2$ -,  $-CH_2-NH$ -,  $-N=N$ -,  $-CH=CH$ -,  $-CH_2-O$ -,  $-O-CH_2$ -,  $-N=CH$ -,  $-CH=N$ -,  $-(CH_2-CH_2-O)_m$ - or  $-(O-CH_2-CH_2)_m$ -, with m and n

independently of each other, equal to 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R7 represents -OH, -OSO<sub>3</sub>H, -OALK or -OCOCH<sub>3</sub>, wherein ALK represents an alkyl group having one to four carbon atoms;

R8 represents an alkyl group with one to eight carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkyl group having from one to six carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkenyl group having from two to six carbon atoms, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or an alkenyl carboxylic acid group having two to six carbon atoms; and

b) applying said agent to hair and scalp in an amount sufficient for said promoting of said hair growth or said decreasing of said hair loss; and

c) leaving said agent on said hair and scalp for a predetermined time interval;

13(original). The method as defined in claim 12, wherein said predetermined time interval is at least 24 hours.

14(original). The method as defined in claim 12, wherein after said applying to said scalp is massaged for another predetermined time interval.

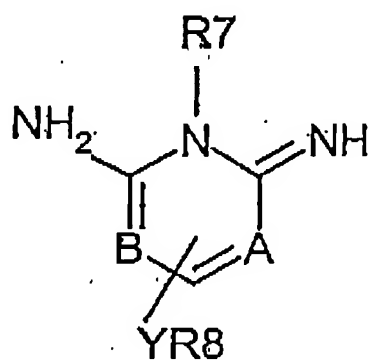
15(original). The method as defined in claim 14, wherein said another predetermined time interval is for from 1 to 5 minutes.

16 (canceled).

17 (currently amended). The method as defined in claim 12, wherein said agent is a compound of the formula (III) in which Y represents -N=N-,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -,  $-CH=CH$ -,  $-N=CH$ - or  $-CH=N$ -; R7 represents -OH, -OSO<sub>3</sub>H or -OALK, where ALK is an alkyl group having one to four carbon atoms and R8 represents an alkyl group with one to six carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkyl group having from one to six carbon atoms, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a pyridyl group.

18 (currently amended). The method as defined in claim 12, wherein A method at least one of promoting hair growth and decreasing hair loss, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing an agent comprising at least one compound of formula (III) or a physiologically compatible salt thereof;



(III),

wherein A and B, independently of each other, are each a CH group.

Y represents -O-,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -, -NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -N=N-, -CH=CH-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-,  
-O-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -N=CH-, -CH=N-,  $-(CH_2-CH_2-O)_m$ - or  $-(O-CH_2-CH_2)_m$ -, with m and n  
independently of each other, equal to 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R<sub>7</sub> represents -OH, -OSO<sub>3</sub>H, -OALK or -OCOCH<sub>3</sub>, wherein ALK represents  
alkyl group having one to four carbon atoms;

R<sub>8</sub> represents an alkyl group with one to eight carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkyl  
group having from one to six carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkenyl group having from  
two to six carbon atoms, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or an alkenyl  
carboxylic acid group having two to six carbon atoms; and

b) applying said agent to hair and scalp in an amount sufficient for said  
promoting of said hair growth or said decreasing of said hair loss; and

c) leaving said agent on said hair and scalp for a predetermined time  
interval;

wherein said agent is 2,6-diamino-3-((pyridin-3-yl)-azo)pyridin-1-oxide

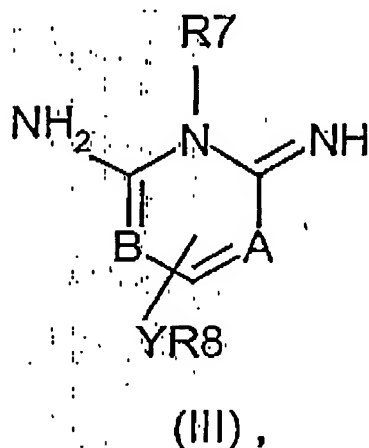
19 (canceled).

20 (original): The method as defined in claim 12, wherein said agent is a hair  
or a preparation for sustained release of said agent.

21 (currently amended). A method of at least one of promoting hair growth and  
decreasing hair loss, said method comprising the steps of:



a) providing an agent comprising at least one compound of formula  
a physiologically compatible salt thereof member selected from the group  
 consisting of compounds of formula (III) and physiologically compatible salts  
 thereof.



wherein A and B, independently of each other, are each a CH group or  
 nitrogen atom, with the proviso that at least one of said A and B is said CH  
 group.

Y represents -O-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-, -NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -N=N-, -CH=CH-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-,  
 -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -N=CH-, -CH=N-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-O)<sub>m</sub>- or -(O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-, with m and n  
 independently of each other, equal to 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R7 represents -OH, -OSO<sub>3</sub>H, -OALK or -OCOCH<sub>3</sub>, wherein ALK represents a  
 alkyl group having one to four carbon atoms;

R8 represents an alkyl group with one to six carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkyl group  
 having from one to six carbon atoms, a hydroxyalkenyl group having from two

six carbon atoms, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group or an alkenyl carboxyl group having two to six carbon atoms; and

b) applying said agent to hair and scalp in an amount sufficient for promoting of said hair growth or said decreasing of said hair loss;

c) massaging said scalp for one to five minutes after the applying of step b) and

d) leaving said agent on said hair and said scalp for at least 24 hours.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☐ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**